

















## LOCAL HAPPENINGS

## Discovered this Week by Independent Investigators.

The two Presbyterian churches of Alliance will unite.

Prof. E. A. Jones has purchased the Webb property on East Tremont street.

Mrs. Greenwood Trotter died at her home on the West Side Monday morning.

A large gang of tramps spent Sunday at "Plum-bottom," just east of the city, on the Ft. Wayne road.

Mr. E. R. Albrecht is nursing a fractured arm as a result of an unexpected descent from a bicycle.

A sewer ordinance and the annual report of the clerk of the board of education are found in this issue.

The attachment suit between A. H. Wendling & Brother and E. Stanton Howells has been compromised.

The Stark County Horticultural Society will meet in Canton, April 3rd, at the residence of Peter Chance, Cleveland avenue.

Frank Spierger, now at Munich, Bavaria, has determined to remain for an indefinite time, and is studying sculpture.

Councilman Schlager is back from Columbus, where he delivered a petition asking for the passage of the city hall bill.

Company F was in charge of its new drilling officer, John W. Wilkinson, lieutenant of the 7th Cavalry, U. S. A., Tuesday night.

Humane Agent Hose has notified Frank Y. Nelson, who lives on the east edge of the city, that his live stock must be kept in better condition.

The Massillon coal operators failed to reach an agreement at their adjourned Cleveland meeting held Saturday. Nearly all the names were represented.

The records of the city of Wooster for its fiscal year amounted to \$66,908.05; the expenditures, \$57,802.14. The bonded indebtedness amounts to \$134,000.

Daniel Ritter Casp, S. of V., is flourishing, having a net cash balance of \$277.70. The exact amount cleared at the late entertainment was \$101.60.

There is talk of organizing a stock company for the purpose of building a cosy ground-floor theater in this city, at cost of about twenty thousand dollars.

According to Household Fiction C. M. McLain, Colorado Springs, Col., is named as having received fifteen thousand dollars from the Louisiana State Lottery, drawing of January 15, 1889.

The city council met on Wednesday night, paid bills and authorized the removal of the present places of feeding sprinkling carts to less conspicuous locations. Considerable time was spent but nothing was done.

General Manager Woodford of the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad has issued an order notifying employees that orders except for bond will not be recognized by the paymaster hereafter. This is to prevent the prevalent practice of discounting wages.

Mr. Samuel D. Pease, of Dayton, O., is a guest at the residence of his brother, Judge Pease. Mr. Pease carries a miniature ball in his head as a very unpleasant reminder of his service in the late war. Its presence often causes great annoyance, but it cannot be removed.

David Miller, of West Brookfield, one of the prominent Stark county farmers, died Sunday evening at half past 6, of typhoid fever. He was about fifty years of age, well-known and highly-respected. The funeral will take place Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock from the home.

It is stated in the Electrical World, of March 23d, that A. M. F. Lape, formerly of Massillon, is giving a series of lectures on the "Relative Merits of High and Low Speed Engines," before the Dallas, Texas, Electrical Society, of which he is a member.

Captain C. W. Zimmerman has a letter from the adjutant general's office, stating that in all probability the legislature will pass a bill appropriating funds enough to pay the expenses of about our thousand members of the national guard to New York, for the centennial.

Upon authority that THE INDEPENDENT regards as the very best, it may be stated that the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Coal Company, of whose large capital and large field of operations at the south end of the extension much has been said, will soon have a mine in this district.

Mr. William Young, a former moulder at Russell & Co.'s foundry, but now of Bradlocks, Pa., is lying seriously ill with typhoid fever. His mother, Mrs. Joshua F. Young, of Wellman street, left yesterday on the noon train for Bradlocks, to attend to her son's wants and nurse him back to health as none but mothers can.

The Rev. S. P. Lang, now of London, ville, was the guest of the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran church last week. A call has been extended to Mr. Lang from this city which he will either accept or decline in two weeks. He is a young man of much energy and ability, and it will be a disappointment if he does not take the charge.

Supt. E. A. Jones, of Massillon schools, and member of the State board of examiners, will deliver a lecture in the high school room Friday evening, March

29th, subject, "The Home and the School." The lecture will be given under the auspices of the public schools and will be free to all. The public is cordially invited.—Dalton Gazette.

The grounds surrounding the residence of Mr. S. Hunt are over-run every Sunday by persons who make use of them as they would a public park. Sunday accidentally or otherwise, they set fire to the dry grass on a hillside near Russell & Co.'s lumber yard, and had not the creeping flames been energetically stamped out, very serious results might have followed.

Dr. C. F. Porter, now making a tour of the West, met with his first real adventure in Chicago, where he accidentally exchanged his valise with that of some traveling man. The full force of the joke has struck neither of them yet. The traveling man is in Chicago telegraphing for his samples, and Dr. Porter is running across the great desert equally anxious for his belongings.

In conversation this morning Agent John Shoenaker said: "The days of fast freight trains have come. A star run was made over the Pennsylvania Co.'s line from Crestline to Alliance, a distance of one hundred and five miles, in two hours and fifty-three minutes, stopping for coal and water. The train was composed of twenty-four passenger cars and contained four hundred and eighty head of cattle."

The local assembly of Knights of Labor is about to associate with the Trades and Labor Assembly once more, as it did a year or two ago. Both local and national misunderstandings caused the Knights to withdraw, but a truce has now been declared, and delegates from the K. of L. assembly will again sit with the Trades and Labor Assembly. The latter organization will also meet in the hall of the former.

The office of the Loan and Building Company was crowded last night with stockholders and the sales were unusually satisfactory. The money loaned amounted to \$3,600 in sums of \$2,500 and \$100. It all brought a premium of nine and a half cents. The first year of the institution is almost at an end, and under the charge of its excellent director, has been successful beyond all expectation.

Those who regulate their watches by the town clock should now turn their backs one minute. The clock is now keeping Cleveland sun time to the fraction of a second, which is thirty-three minutes faster than standard time. Heretofore thirty-four minutes has been a credit as the difference between local and standard time. The difference between Massillon and Cleveland sun time is so very trifling that this has been decided upon.

An answer has been filed by Will J. Oberlin in the five thousand dollar damage suit brought against him by Postmaster Shepley, for alleged defamation of character. It is as follows: "E. L. R. Shepley, plaintiff, against William J. Oberlin, defendant. Now comes the said defendant, William J. Oberlin, and demurs to the petition of the plaintiff, because he says the said petition does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action in favor of said plaintiff against said defendant." Whereof the defendant prays judgment. Will J. Oberlin by Day, Lynch & Day, his attorneys.

Many of the citizens of this city seem to have a wrong impression as to the Humane Society. This association is one authorized and formed under the revised statutes of the State of Ohio. Its purpose is to regard society with stricter attention as regards cruelty to man and beast than the ordinary police officer is supposed to exercise. When the society makes a complaint or its agent makes an arrest, the State of Ohio takes up the case, punishing the defendant if the courts find him guilty and bearing the costs of the suit if he be discharged in innocent. As a reward for setting in motion the wheels of justice directly in the cause of humane action, all fines in such cases are turned over to the society.

Mr. Fred Forster has received from Germany, a confirmation of his worst fears regarding his father, Adam Forster, of Stockach, Baden. He died on the 7th of March, at a ripe old age, and after a useful career. He had been shrewd enough in the prime of life to give to every member of his family a good education, and the result has been that the three brothers in America and the others in the Fatherland all occupy positions of trust and usefulness. Two, who still remain abroad, are in official life, one being a police commissioner, and the other a magistrate. The American brothers expected to go abroad to visit their old home very shortly, but the unexpected death of their father has probably terminated their plans.

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## FUEL GAS.

## A COMPANY LIKELY TO BE ORGANIZED

## To Supply this City with a Cheap and Convenient Fuel.

Mr. T. H. Chidester, of New York, a cousin of Dr. E. Chidester, and a gentleman whose youth was spent in Massillon, was in the city Monday. Mr. Chidester is connected with the Archer Fuel Gas Company, and hopes that the day is not far distant when his company will be supplying this entire town.

He is at present superintending the construction of a plant for the Bolt and Steel Works in Canton, and believes that a local company will shortly be organized to furnish the new fuel to that city. The system is used by the De Pauw Glass Company, at New Albany, Ind., and in dozens of other large manufacturing plants. Tomorrow the pipe system in Youngstown, through which natural gas has been flowing, will be disconnected and attached to an Arner gas plant. Mr. Chidester speaks with the utmost confidence of the practicability of the process, and in supplying all sorts of establishments has met with no obstacles which he has not been able to overcome.

The gas is made of a fine crude oil, and can be distributed at any distance from the plant. It can be made at a cost of seven or eight cents a thousand feet, and is good for either heating or illuminating purposes. The retail price depends upon the determination of the operating company.

James McKinley, an uncle of Congressman McKinley, is a stockholder in the Archer Company, and has interested himself in organizing a local Canton company. Mr. Chidester thinks that he will shortly turn his attention to Massillon. He himself has interviewed some of the manufacturers and was greatly pleased at his reception. The plant is not very expensive, costing the neighborhood of ten thousand dollars. Should the Gas Light Company take hold of this matter, it could turn the now gas into its present pipes; a new company would have to make a heavy investment.

THE INDEPENDENT has had information for months that there is ample capital in this city ready to be invested in any process that is beyond an experimental stage. Mr. Chidester feels that the Archer Company can safely make this claim, and the circumstances of his visit and the substance of his conversation lead this paper to feel that active steps will be taken within a few weeks to change the conditions under which this city does business.

If we were to put a twice local in the most obscure corner of the paper, which stated that a certain business man charged more for his goods or kept an inferior quality than his competitors, that man would employ a bull-headed slogger to come around and kill us the next morning. But if we were to state that same man for an advertisement of his wares, he would say: "N; I don't believe in advertising; no one reads the papers."—Trade Paper.

## Sunday School Election.

At a meeting of the Sunday School Association of the Second Presbyterian church, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, S. B. Rigdon; superintendent, E. A. Jones; treasurer, C. B. Heckman; secretary, E. S. Rigdon; librarians, C. W. Moody, Ed. Scoble, Chas. E. Archer; pianist, Miss L. J. Russell, Miss Ella Wagner.

## Piddler Primo's Home.

Piddler Primo, and his ancient and honorable steed are well-known about the city. Monday morning while at the Massillon Paper Company's works, the blind horse was left alone, and undertook to follow his nose. The poor beast walked over the edge of the canal lock, dragging the heavy wagon with it, and there drowned.

## The Humane Society.

The directors of the Massillon Humane Society met last week to decide what course to pursue in relation to the recent arrests for live-pigeon shooting. The matter was placed entirely in the hands of Attorney Warren E. Russell, who is the society's committee, and he has no information to give out. From the silence that is strictly maintained, it may be set down that the affair will not be dropped.

## The Republican Campaign.

The Republican candidates met with the central committee Tuesday and the individuals are causing a very happy feeling. C. O. Merwin resigned as committeeman from the first ward on account of long continued service, and at his suggestion Joseph Grapewine was appointed in his stead. Mr. Grapewine will bring to the committee that tact and energy which are indispensable in campaign work. The choice was a happy one.

## Thinks It a Dead Letter.

The Navarre Independent says: "The law prohibiting the fishing with nets is practically a dead letter, and well it may be, for the law was passed in the interest of the wholesale fish dealers and is an unjust measure. Many a poor family are being deprived of eating fish through its provisions. Game Warden Chitz, of Massillon, has given it out that he will keep his 'weather eye' up in the Tuscarawas river, and arrest all persons caught fishing with nets. The law should be repealed."

When you want a good cup of coffee, buy a package of Victor Mara.—For sale by all grocers.

## PERSONALITIES

## And Matters that Agitate the Society World.

Mr. and Mrs. James Suter have moved to Massillon.

Miss Evelyn McCue has returned from Cleveland.

Mrs. Arlene Reavie, of Cleveland, is visiting relatives on Canal street.

Miss Ada Ritchie, of Toledo, is visiting Mrs. H. C. Brown on East street.

Miss Ella McMillan of Tuscarawas township was in the city Wednesday.

Mrs. R. A. Baoney has returned after a visit with her daughter in Cleveland.

Mrs. Kate Webb and Master Frank Webb are the guests of Mrs. John Shoop, of Canton.

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Dunn are now enjoying the luxuries of the Hygeia, Old Point Comfort.

Councilman J. R. Schlager has gone to Columbus to work in the interest of the city hall bill.

The Misses Fannie and Jennie Chidester, of Toledo, are visiting their grandparents on Prospect street.

Mrs. McColom, who has been spending a week with Mrs. G. A. Kettering has returned home to Marion, O.

Miss Harriet Russell spent Sunday in this city, and returned to Miss Moberly, of Cleveland school this morning.

Mr. J. M. Bassett Jr., of Mansfield, is on the latter part of the week and Sunday in this city. He is a prospective M. D.

Per Lee Hunt will go from East Massillon, Mass., to Washington, as soon as the winter term ends, and will remain in Washington relatives until June.

Mr. Arthur Bruce, of Canton, and his sister, Mrs. Florence, of Canal Fulton, spent Sunday in this city, the guests of Mr. E. B. Lighley and family.

Mr. J. Scott Lewis, of Thompson, Miss., is in the city, a guest of Mr. Joseph K. Russell. He and Mr. Russell expect to leave together, in a few days, for a Western pleasure trip.

Mrs. Frances E. Lee will leave soon for Des Moines, Ia., where she will reside with her sister. A large number of friends in Massillon and Canton will regret her permanent leave taking.

Dr. Paul Kirchhofer has guests at his residence in the persons of Eugene Kirchhofer and Ernest Blasimann, both of Lausanne, Canton Berne, Switzerland. It is probable that they will remain in the United States.

Mrs. J. P. Burton went to Cleveland Wednesday to meet Miss Burton, who is returning from Smith College for the Easter vacation. The other young ladies who attend New England schools are expected soon.

Messrs. Fred W. Albrecht and C. F. Porter and Mrs. Charles Mong will leave this evening for Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Mong will join her husband, whose home has been there for some time; the first two are going merely for pleasure and information.

Dr. Paul Kirchhofer's time as park commissioner will expire soon. Dr. Kirchhofer has done so much to beautify the public grounds, and has given such satisfaction to the people of the city that the mayor will make no mistake by naming him for a full term of three years.

## Railroad Gossip.

Cleveland has two railways, says the Coal Trade Journal, built within a few years past and extending into the central part of the State, one the Valley and the other the Cleveland and Canton. Both roads have been prosperous and have added noticeably to their income of late. Extensions to coal districts have been built and the Cleveland and Canton, especially is now doing a large coal business. The success attending both enterprises has attracted the attention of eastern capitalists. The Cleveland and Canton has been backed for more than a year past by Boston men, who have lost no time in improving the line, the latest arrangements giving the road a Pittsburgh connection. It is now said on the best of authority that the Valley has been purchased by a syndicate of eastern people, who propose to make a new Pittsburgh line of it, taking advantage of the coal and ore business to add to the lakes. Negotiations are certainly pending for the purchase of the road and both Andrew Carnegie and the Wheeling and Lake Erie people have been mentioned as buyers. The coal business of this region should will be increased by the proposed Coal Trade Journal.

## Newspapers in 1889.

From the edition of Geo. P. Rowley & Co.'s "American Newspaper Directory," published April 1st (its twenty-first year), it appears that the new-papers and periodicals of all kinds issued in the United States and Canada numbered 17,167, showing a gain of 797 during the last twelve months, and of 7,882 in ten years.

## The Gun Club.

The score appended was made by the Gun Club Friday. Mr. Brown took first honor, and Mr. Hunt second:

D. Reed	.....	19
E. A. Brown	.....	18
J. C. Hunt	.....	15
J. H. Hunt	.....	15

Spanner & Co. have the largest line of hats, caps, neck wear, gloves, shirts, suspenders, overalls, and valises in the city. See our 50c unlaundried shirt, the best in the West. Remember the place, No. 4 East Main street, Massillon.

## AN ANTICIPATORY DISPATCH

## About Halstead and His Mission—Fire at Chicago.

Special Dispatch to the Independent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 26.—It is understood that Mr. Halstead, of Cincinnati, is to be nominated for the German mission. In anticipation of such action on the part of the president, the following Republican senators will refuse to vote to confirm him: Cameron, Tilden, Evans, Ingalls, Jones, Miller, and Plumb. This determination is the result of his criticism following the refusal of the senate to investigate Payne's election.

## COMMENT OF LEU.

## He Endorses His Ward Ticket.

Councilman John Leu, who was defeated at the primary election by Mr. John R. Dangler says: "I am not at all disappointed at my defeat, at the primaries because Mr. John R. Dangler has so faithfully filled the office of county treasurer and is well liked by every body. I want all my friends to vote for him, and with approval are their doing so, as much as though they voted for me." This indicates a very creditable spirit on the part of Mr. Leu and his frank way of coming to the front will be remembered.

## Ohio Miners.

The Casual Observer in the Ohio State Journal properly says: "There is a general erroneous impression that the coal miners are an uncouth and uncivilized class of men who can neither be governed by reason nor the principles of justice and equity. This was the opinion held by the operators for many years, and by some still maintained. A glance at the delegates on the miners' side at the recent joint convention in this city would have convinced them of their error. The common impression is a mistake. They are not uncouth or seditious, as the mine operators and their agents may not be as polished, but they are brave. They are well educated, but they have no sight into the business motives of the operators. They are not union men in debate, and do not hesitate to expose their opponents as they may see a plain English."



This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. Not comparable with the ordinary baking powder in weight, short weight, adulteration, or purity. Sold everywhere. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL ST., N. Y.

## WALL PAPER.

The Independent Company is now prepared to show a very attractive line of new spring WALL PAPERS. The cheap papers are all pretty and artistic. The finer grades show some of the handsomest effects yet produced. We have the ENGLISH PAPERS in two grades, heavy and light weight, and all the colors in both grades. The prices for these papers are of a class of designs not usually found in wall papers, the work of the Society of Associated Artists of New York.

For all of the new papers we have had especially made a line of room mouldings to match in color the papers. These papers white of the highest artistic merit are sold at moderate prices. GIVE US A TRIAL. First class paper hangings furnished.

## THE INDEPENDENT CO.,

NO. 20 EAST MAIN STREET.

## COLEMAN THE RELIABLE JEWELER

HAS AN IMMENSE STOCK OF

## OPTICAL GOODS,

Spectacles and Eye-Glasses in Gold, Silver, Steel, Rubber

Shell and Zylomite Frames.

WE CAN SUIT YOU.

Prices Lower than the Lowest.

Diamonds, Watches, Silverware, Jewelry, clocks, Gold Pens

Musical Instruments, Etc.

COLEMAN'S 5 Erie Street







## LINCOLN'S ORATORY.

## THE "SOPHOMORICAL" STAGE OF PUBLIC SPEAKING IN THE WEST.

It is Perhaps Quite as Well That the Earliest Speeches of Lincoln Were Not Preserved—A Sample Speech by "Uncle Abe."

Of Abraham Lincoln's acuteness as an lawyer many amusing and some pathetic stories are told; but the remarkable change in the style of his speeches between 1840 and 1855 has not been well understood in the eastern states. As a forensic orator his life presents three very distinct phases: First, the time when he spoke hesitatingly and with abrupt changes from one point to another—the common style of the untrained speaker; second, having acquired confidence, he changed rather suddenly to that florid and perfrigid style then common in the west; but now heard only on the burlesque stage; and, finally, after forming his partnership with the eminent Judge Stephen T. Logan, he studied his cases minutely and began to cultivate a terse style, the result being manifest in that wonderful combination of strong Saxon words, directness of statement and aptness of illustration, yet glowing with the pure poetry of emotion, in which style Abraham Lincoln surpassed all other men of his time.

The explanation of the second stage of his progress is to be found in the character of the people whom he addressed. Southern Indiana, Ohio and Illinois were settled almost entirely by people from the border slave states, and as late as 1840 a "Yankee" was a rarity in the interior counties. Among these people oratory began with imitations of Patrick Henry, was continued with imitations of Henry Clay, and tended rapidly to subordinate logic to rhetoric, till it reached a state of turgidity that was simply ridiculous. Every phenomenon of nature, every emotion of humanity, all the acts of all the heroes of antiquity, and all the battles in which "we licked the British," were raw material, to be wildly ranged in rampant periods by the fervent speaker; flags and chains, demons and angels, muskets, racks, hatchets and vipers danced through his speech in mazy confusion, as he successively removed coat, vest, cravat and collar, till at the close he crushed the Hessians' sword and "Injun's tommyhawk," the "Blue-light Federalists" and Julius Caesar, with as many local heroes and Scripture phrases as he could remember, into an awful peroration, and hurled it at his admiring audience.

It is just as well for Lincoln's fame that of the many speeches he made while in this third season of oratorical pubes-

Abraham and his sister Sarah, constituted the little family, to which was afterwards added Lincoln's cousins, John and Dennis Hanks.

The stepmother was a mother indeed to the future president, and he never ceased to love and revere her. She outlived her famous stepson and died at an advanced age. Thomas Lincoln died in 1851, at the age of 73, and his grave, near Farmington, Ill., remained unmarked till his grandson, Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, placed an appropriate stone over it. The life of the boy Abe Lincoln in Indiana and the man in Illinois did not differ materially from that of other pioneers, except in his great love of reading and earnestness of inquiry into everything that excited his curiosity. It is not until we reach that period of Abraham Lincoln's life that he began to practice law that we find many well authenticated anecdotes of him. Then his wonderful native powers began to be recognized.

## President Lincoln.

No American statesman ever passed through such a season of mental agony as did Abraham Lincoln in the four months between his election and inauguration. Chaos but faintly describes the condition of public affairs. The true interpretation of the national constitution as to the power of the nation over a recalcitrant state had often been mooted, but was now to be settled by the argument of last resort—battle. Constrained by his position to maintain complete reserve, Lincoln had to think the matter out in almost total mental solitude. It was then that his countenance took on permanently that deep cast of melancholy which had before been only occasional, an appearance which caused an eminent lady to remark:

"Mr. Lincoln had the saddest countenance, in repose, I ever looked upon." The last scene in which his old humor reasserted itself is thus portrayed by the southern historian, Edward A. Pollard: "A vast concourse of people assembled at the president's house to make the popular congratulations to Mr. Lincoln. There was music, illuminations; the ground was ablaze with triumphal lights; and the vast crowd called impatiently for a response from the president. It was a grand historical occasion; one of great thoughts and imposing circumstances; one of noble and memorable utterances. The president of the United States came forward and called for the 'rebel' song of 'Dixie.' He said: 'I have always thought that 'Dixie' was one of the best songs I ever heard. Our adversaries over the way, I know, have attempted to appropriate it; but I insist that on yesterday we fairly captured it. I referred the question to the attorney general, and he gave it as his legal opinion that it is now our property. (Laughter and loud applause.) I now ask the band to give us a good turn upon it.' It was a characteristic speech and the last joke of Abraham Lincoln."

## Burlesques of 1860.

Considering the present greatness of Illinois, and the wonderful galaxy of great men she has furnished the nation since 1860, the young reader can scarcely conceive the comparative obscurity of the state when Abraham Lincoln first became nationally prominent. Indeed, 1860 was the first year in which the northwest determinedly asserted itself in political conventions as the dominating power. Though Stephen A. Douglas had been the leader of the northern Democracy since 1858, even his prominence was matter of ridicule, and the persistence of his friends at Charleston and Baltimore was pronounced offensive by some eastern and southern men. How much more the prominence given to Abraham Lincoln, who only began to be known nationally in 1858.

The political satires and caricatures of 1860 abound in allusions to the "rail splitter," the "Sucker," the frontier village lawyer, etc. One who then studied American life in the illustrated papers might have concluded that the average Illinois or Indiana man put in one-third of his time shaking with the ague, and a good deal of the other two-thirds in swallowing quinine and whisky to ward it off. The following are caricatures from Harper's Weekly of Oct. 27, 1860:



SCENE—SOMEWHERE IN ILLINOY.  
Peleg Puffer, Esq., in search of material for "New Life of Lincoln," encounters a native. "So, my dear sir, you say you are well acquainted with the illustrious Abraham—honorable old Abe—eh?"  
"Ya-as, stranger, ever since '38 I knowed him. I know it was '38 'cos the ager got a holt on me jest about tha-a-a—"



Mr. Puffer at this moment is horrified to find that his friend and informant has assumed a very peculiar form and action, scratching gravel and kicking up a dust generally, looking like a small thunder cloud, out of which issued: "For mercy's sake, stranger, w-wait till I get through this ager shake an' I'll t-tell you all a-bout it."

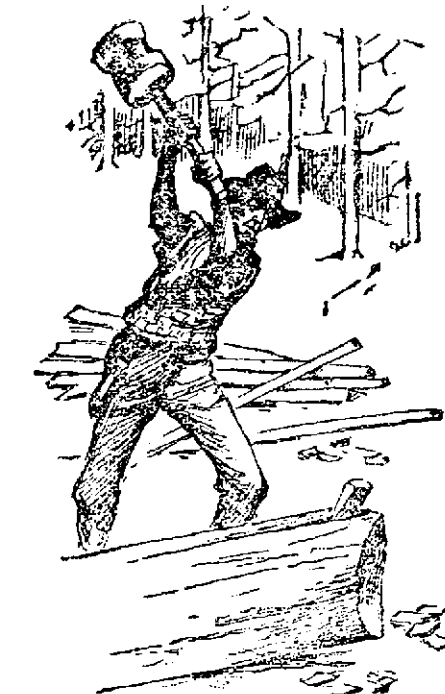
Peleg sloped for high ground, satisfied that Illinois earthquakes interfere fearfully with information on matters and things generally.

## THE RAIL CAMPAIGN.

Abraham Lincoln Did Split Rails, but Not Long.

All old voters remember the prominent part the "Lincoln rails" played in the campaign of 1860. Mr. Lincoln was represented in one caricature in the act of charging at his opponents with a rail, in another as hammering with a maul upon a very knotty "cut" labeled to represent the Democracy of that day, and in many other attitudes. Of course, the other party sought to turn all this into ridicule and boldly denied that Lincoln ever split rails. This period of his life is eloquently sketched by the Hon. Leonard Swett:

When he thus left Indiana he had been to school in a log school house but six weeks, and this period constitutes his entire education received at school. Hav-



## SPLITTING RAILS.

ing arrived here in August, they erected a log cabin and plowed some land for a crop the coming year. When about to become 21 years of age the next February, his father gave him his time, and his stepmother, a kind, good mother to him, tied all his earthly possessions in a pack, and Lincoln, running a stick through where the knot was tied, started on foot from Coles county to Macon county.

Cast your eyes back sixty years and look on that tall, lithe young man, partly concealed by the tall grasses of the prairie as he then walks alone along the Indian trail, with a pack on his back and hope in his heart, on that wonderful journey of life, which first took him to Macon county and the life of a rail splitter, thence to Sangamon county and Sangamon river and the life of a flat-boatman upon the Sangamon, Illinois and Mississippi rivers; thence to a captivity in the Black Hawk war; thence to a membership in the Illinois legislature for four years, in which and in the political campaigns of 1840 and 1844 he acquired a name as an orator; thence to a leadership at the bar; thence to one term in congress, and finally to the presidency of the country he then walked over so humbly, and to martyrdom for the principles he advocated and the noble life he lived. Arrived at Macon county, he met some cousins and with one of them took a contract for splitting rails at a stipulated price per hundred. He then went to Sangamon county and worked for a farmer who lived near the Sangamon river. Products were easily raised, but there was no market for them, and so Lincoln conceived the idea of building a flat boat and floating it loaded with the products of the farm down the Sangamon into the Illinois river, and thence down the Illinois to the Mississippi, and thence down the Mississippi to New Orleans. This as yet had never been done. It being agreed upon, Lincoln with his own hands felled the timber, hewed the beams, made the boat, loaded it with produce, and then was elected to his first office, which was the captaincy of that flat-boat. The whole crew consisted of Capt. Lincoln and one or two other men. Having made successfully the voyage to New Orleans he worked his passage back by firing upon a steamer coming up the river in return. Upon one of these trips down the river an occurrence took place which very nearly prevented him from ever being president or from ever making the slave free. His boat on a downward trip was one night hauled up to the shore near Natchez, in Mississippi. Capt. Lincoln and his crew were asleep below when the steps of some one were heard on deck. Lincoln came up to hear who was there. As his head reached up through the hatchway of the boat, a negro who was pilfering struck him a blow with a large stick, which at the same time struck Lincoln's head and the floor beyond it, and stunned him, and left upon his head a large scar which he carried through life.

After this he was a clerk and partner in a small store near New Salem. After this again the Blackhawk war broke out, and Lincoln was elected captain of a company raised at New Salem. After that war he was elected four times to the legislature, to which he walked from Sangamon county on foot a part of the time. There, for the first time, he came in contact with the prominent men of the state, and distinguished himself as a speaker. He then moved to Springfield, and commenced about the same time to study and practice law, and soon rose to distinction and eminence in that profession.

When he was nominated for the presidency in 1860 some campaign bookmaker called upon him to get the prominent features of his life, and well he replied, in the language of Gray's elegy, that his life presented nothing but

"The short and simple annals of the poor."

This is the record of his life.

Lincoln and Col. Baker.

A member of the Lincoln family for a time, in 1861, says that though the president often grieved deeply and silently for the lives sacrificed in the war, he wept aloud but once, and that was for the death of Col. E. D. Baker at Ball's Bluff. There were many reasons for this. They had been associates at the bar in Illinois and warm friends, though political rivals; and when Baker, who had beaten Lincoln for the nomination and been elected to congress, resigned his seat to go to the Mexican war, it roused all the admiring enthusiasm of Lincoln's nature. Col. Baker came back from Mexico with dispatches before resigning his seat, and made a speech in congress defining the true position of the Whigs. Every step of his subsequent chivalrous career increased Lincoln's affection for him, and he gave it as his opinion that no other man in Illinois had such various talents and so much of the national orator as Edward Dickinson Baker.

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